

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-15 (Canceled).

16. (Previously Presented) A sheet of tissue paper comprising at least one first embossed zone including two arrays having protrusions on one side corresponding to alveoles on an opposite side, the alveoles having a substantially polygonal base; and at least one unembossed zone; wherein

- the alveoles are configured along at least one array, and

- mutually facing sides of two adjacent alveoles subtend a bridge having rectilinear or substantially rectilinear edges of length L greater than a maximum width D of the bridge, wherein at least one bridge is connected to another bridge.

17. (Previously Presented) Sheet of tissue paper as claimed in claim 16, wherein said at least one bridge connected to said another bridge subtends a path between two of said at least one unembossed zone which are separated by said at least one first embossed zone.

18. (Previously Presented) Sheet of tissue paper as claimed in claim 16, wherein ratio L/D is greater than 1.

19. (Previously Presented) Sheet of tissue paper as claimed in claim 16, wherein distance between two adjacent arrays in said first embossed zone are separated by one of said unembossed zone, and is between one and three times a width of said first embossed zone.

20. (Previously Presented) Sheet of tissue paper as claimed in claim 16, where the polygonal base of said alveoles is triangular.

21. (Previously Presented) Sheet of tissue paper as claimed in claim 16, wherein at least one wall of the alveoles slopes relative to vertical to a plane of the sheet and is between 20° and 45°.

22. (Previously Presented) Sheet of tissue paper as claimed in claim 16, wherein the alveoles have an area density of between 4 and 50 alveoles/cm².

23. (Previously Presented) Sheet of tissue paper as claimed in claim 16, wherein linear alveoles have a linear density of between 2 and 20 alveoles/cm.

24. (Previously Presented) Sheet of tissue paper as claimed in claim 16, further comprising a second sheet of tissue paper joined to said sheet to provide a double-thickness sheet.

6342/USSN 10/502,316
Group Art Unit 1731

25. (Previously Presented) Sheet of tissue paper as claimed in claim 24, wherein the second sheet is dried by air crossflow.

26. (Previously Presented) Sheet of tissue paper as claimed in claim 16, wherein said arrays are concentric.

27. (Canceled).

28. (Canceled).

29. (Canceled).

30. (Canceled).

31. (Canceled).

32. (Canceled).